



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor

Ted Stewart
Executive Director

James W. Carter
Division Director

355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203
801-538-5340
801-359-3940 (Fax)
801-538-5319 (TDD)

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TO: Minerals File

FROM: Travis W. Jones, Reclamation Hydrologist *TWJ*

RE: Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) Pre-Application Meeting, Proposed Tailings Modernization Project, Kennecott Utah Copper (KUC), M/035/015, Salt Lake County, Utah

This memo is to document the meeting Lynn Kunzler and I attended on May 12, 1994, at KUC's Arthur Building. Representatives from several governmental agencies attended (see attached attendance sheet). Attached is the information package KUC provided prior to the meeting.

The tailings impoundment upgrade will provide storage for 1.9 billion tons of tailings from the anticipated mining for the next 30 years. The footprint for the proposed tailings expansion has changed from the last proposal. The footprint has now shifted west to cover the Chevron property and impacted land will not include any Salt Lake City property. Also, the new footprint will impact less wetland areas. During the meeting Pat Lorello showed us several off-site alternatives for the tailings impoundment expansion. Information on the on-site alternatives, as well as the off-site alternatives, can be found in the information package. The current proposed alternative is regarded as favorable because:

- (1) an expansion will buttress the north end of the current impoundment which has now been deemed seismically unstable;
- (2) cost of the expansion will be less than constructing a new off-site facility;
- (3) less impact to valuable wildlife habitat; and
- (4) less visual impact.



KUC has completed the following projects to seismically upgrade the current facility:

- (1) installation of wick drains in the northeast corner of the existing impoundment;
- (2) relocation of the three decant siphons to the south;
and
- (3) installation of the first phase of the dewatering system in one 1,500-foot reach of the southeast corner of the existing embankment.

Two projects currently underway for seismic upgrading are construction of step-back dikes at the southeastern corner of the existing impoundment and the next phase of the dewatering program that includes the installation of wick drains and wells in various areas of the impoundment. The southwest portion of the impoundment is considered seismically stable since the water in the tailings flows away from this area.

The C-7 ditch realignment was discussed. The preliminary engineering design for this ditch allows for sufficient capacity to handle the 100-year, 3-hour storm event. Because there are no plans for development west of 7200 West between 2100 South and I-80, Mike Schwinn of ACOE asked why the C-7 ditch had to handle such a large storm event. His idea was to create a smaller ditch and allow the waters to overtop the ditch on the east side and inundate the floodplain. This would, in effect, create some wetlands. Bob Dunne of KUC asked if they would get some "credit" for wetlands mitigation for this alternative. Mr. Schwinn indicated there would be some "credit".